GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1869
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2007
DECLINE IN WOOL PRODUCTION
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of wool has declined significantly during the Tenth Five Year Plan period in comparison to Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof and percentage of decline as compared to Ninth Five Year Plan alongwith the reasons for decline;

(c) whether the Government has chalked out any special strategy for the Eleventh Five Year Plan keeping in view the sharp decline in Tenth Five Year Plan for the said product; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) & (b): There has been a marginal decline of roughly 1.93% in the total wool production during the 10th Five year Plan in comparison to the 9th Five Year Plan due to the drought conditions prevailing during the 10th Five Year Plan in the largest wool producing State of Rajasthan. This resulted in decline of the number of sheep in the State from 140 lakhs to 100 lakhs. The details of wool production during the 9th and the 10th Five Year Plans are given below:-

(In million kg.)

Year	9th Plan	Year	10th Plan
1997-98	45.6	2002-03	50.5
1998-99	46.9	2003-04	48.5
1999-2000	47.9	2004-05	44.6
2000-01	48.4	2005-06	44.9
2001-02	49.5	2006-07	45.2
Total	238.3	Total	233.7

- Anticipated

(Source: Ministry of Agriculture)

(c) & (d): During the 11th Five Year Plan, efforts will be made in the areas of healthcare of and improvement of select high yielding indigenous breeds of sheep. Since production of wool is considered as a by product of rearing sheep for meat, special incentives like schemes of sheep insurance and shepherd insurance and creation of a Revolving Fund to be utilized for procurement of raw wool and its sale are likely to lead to an increase in the production of wool in the country. In addition, the Angora Wool Development Programme & the Pashmina Wool Development projects for increasing the production of angora raw wool and the quality and quantity of Pashmina would be further strengthened.